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Atty. Docket No. 2001-1043-1
PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Sacha Adrianus Fokke Taco VAN HIJUM et al. Confirmation No.2951

Serial No. 09/995,587

GROUP 1652

Filed November 29, 2001

Examiner: M. Rao

NOVEL FRUCTOSYL TRANSFERASES

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

SEP 0 6 2002

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action of July 3, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

CANCEL claim 10.

Amend claim 12 as follows:

--12. (amended) A probiotic or symbiotic composition containing a *Lactobacillus* strain capable of producing an inulin, a levan or fructo-oligosaccharides according to claim 15 and optionally a glucan.—

Amend claim 14 as follows:

--14. (amended) A process of improving the microbial status of the mammalian colon comprising administering an